



NEWS FROM **JACK SCOTT**

21ST SENATE DISTRICT



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SENATOR SCOTT URGES GOVERNOR TO FUND YWCA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER IN GLENDALE

Assembly Bill 664 will keep doors open for battered women's shelters next year

Senator Jack Scott (D-Pasadena) announced today that he has urged Governor Davis to sign legislation that will provide \$200,000 for the YWCA battered women's shelter in Glendale. Assembly Bill 664 (Dutra) would replace funding lost when the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) denied grants to ten battered women's shelters in the state, including two shelters in Senator Scott's district.

"These shelters provide crucial services in our community," said Senator Scott. "They need to keep their doors open for women who need refuge."

Most of the programs which lost grants were successful and well-established programs that had been funded for long periods of time by OCJP, including Haven House in Pasadena and the YMCA of Glendale. Haven House, the first battered women's shelter in the United States, has received OCJP grants for over twenty years. The YWCA of Glendale has also provided counseling and shelter for victims of domestic violence for more than twenty years, funded in part from OCJP grants. The YWCA offers the only services for Armenian speaking victims in Los Angeles County, including a 24-hour hotline.

"The long history of these programs being funded by OCJP made the loss of those grants especially surprising," said Senator Scott. "Unless AB 644 is signed, these programs will be crippled."

As a result of the cuts, Haven House will have to lay off personnel who offer court assistance for victims and bilingual services because 40% of its annual budget came from the OCJP grant. Likewise, the YWCA will have to discontinue its community outreach program which was completely funded by the OCJP grant.

AB 664, introduced in the last days of the legislative sessions at the urging of Attorney General Bill Lockyer, will soften the blow of the lost grants for these centers by allowing them to continue operating and providing crucial services while they find alternate sources of funding. Under OCJP rules, the programs cannot reapply for funding for three years.

The Governor has until October 14 to act on AB 664.

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